



STATE OF NEW YORK
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER
ALBANY 12224

DAVID A. PATERSON
GOVERNOR

October 23, 2009

To the Founding Members of the Study New York Consortium:

I write to congratulate you on your accomplishments to date and to encourage you to press on in your efforts to recruit international students to New York State. I know that Study New York has recently cleared the critical hurdle of becoming incorporated as a not-for-profit organization, and that it is now prepared to collect dues from campuses around the State. I have been particularly pleased to witness the high level of cooperation between New York's different sectors of higher education on this initiative – when we are presenting ourselves to the world, we are best as a unified whole.

New York already attracts an impressive number of foreign students who generate an important economic impact. As I have learned from the Study New York organizers, during the 2006-07 school year, 65,884 international students contributed \$1.86 billion to New York's economy. Those students are attracted by our incredible wealth and variety of colleges and universities – public and private, upstate and downstate – ranging from community colleges to research universities. Here, students of the world can find world-class options to match their interests, and the Study New York consortium will play a crucial role in getting the word out.

I want to personally thank the organizers of the Study New York initiative as well as the members of the pro tempore governing board for their commitment and dedication to this vital effort. I urge all of New York's colleges and universities to get as involved as they can to help sound the call that New York State is the world's premier higher education destination.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David A. Paterson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

David A. Paterson